The Pyongyang Times

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EVERY CHILD RECEIVES FREE EDUCATION

Nine-Year Compulsory Technical Education Starts in N. Korea

Grand Celebrations Held

A grand meeting was held on April 1, the first day of the new school term, at the Kim Il Sung square in Pyongyang in celebration of the enforcement of universal nine-year compulsory technical education. It was attended by more than 100,000 students, teachers and parents of students.

On the reviewing stands on either side of the platform were functionaries of the Party and government organs and public organizations, men in the fields of education, culture and the press as well as diplomatic envoys and staff members of foreign embassies in the capital and foreign guests here.

The platform was taken by Comrades Kim Gwang Hyop, Bak Jo'ng An, Pak Sung Chul and Ri Yo'ng Ho and members of the Secretariat of the Central Committee of the Workers' Party of Korea, Vice-Premiers and other leading personalities of the Party and government organs and public organizations.

Premier Kim Il Sung with school children

REPORT

Hong Sun Gwon, Chairman of the Central Committee of the League of Socialist Working Youth, made a report at the meeting.

On the first day of the enforcement of universal nine-year compulsory technical education, the reporter said, the children and youth of our country are filled with the feelings of boundless trust in and fidelity to the respected and beloved leader Marshal Kim Il Sung and the Workers' Party of Korea, who have opened up before them a broader opportunity for learning.

The enforcement of universal nine-year compulsory technical education is one more great victory of our people in socialist construction and cultural revolution and a brilliant result of the popular education policy of the Workers' Party of Korea, he declared.

He went on:

This demonstrates the great strength of the independent national economy built by our people under the leadership of the Party and the advantages of the socialist system established in our country.

Pointing out that Marshal Kim Il Sung had directed deep care to the development of popular education since the time of the anti-Japanese armed struggle, the reporter said: "Enforcement of the universal nine-year compulsory technical education in our country, while pushing forward economic construction parallel with defence upbuilding—this clearly shows the deep care our Party and Marshal Kim Il Sung direct to the rising generation."

Then the reporter referred to the deplorable state of education in South Korea where national education is faced with overall bankruptcy as a result of the policy of colonial enslavement of the U.S. imperialists and their stooges.

He extended full support to the South Korean patriotic youth and students fighting courageously against the U.S. imperialists and the Pak Jung Hi clique and for democratic, national education and for academic freedom and rights.

The reporter extended warm support to the Korean nationals and students in Japan who, under the leadership of the General Association of Korean Residents in Japan, are fighting staunchly for defending their sacred national rights against all the stones of the Japanese reactionary government including the bill on "the projected "alien school system."

After the report the floor was taken by students and teachers.

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Friendship Delegation Arrives in Sana

The friendship delegation of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea led by Gang Byang Uk, Vice-President of the Presidium of the Supreme People's Assembly, arrived on March 29 in Sana for a visit to Yemen at the invitation of the Government of the Yemeni Arab Republic, according to a report from the Yemeni capital.

The delegation was met at the airport by Dayzellan, Vice-Premier of the Yemeni Arab Republic, ministers and other high-ranking officials and representatives of public circles in the capital.

Foreign diplomatic envoys in Sana were also among the welcomers.

Ahmed Al Alab, Director of the Political Bureau of the Yemeni Ministry of Foreign Affairs accompanied the delegation from Cairo. (KCNA)

GRAND EVE FOR THE NATION

On April 1, all the students, teachers and parents greeted the first day of the universal nine-year compulsory technical education.

On and after this day all the children between the ages of seven and sixteen are guaranteed by law the right to study as they like free of charge in regular schools. The parents are free of worries about the education of their children till they reach the working age. Our youngsters, without exception, have been given a broader opportunity to receive general education and elementary technical education for nine years.

Indeed, the enforcement of the nine-year compulsory technical education is another happy event for the Korean nation.

That was why our people marked the first day of the nine-year technical education as a grand fete day. They are paying high tribute to the Workers' Party of Korea and the Leader who have brought the happiness of today to them.

Under the correct policy and well-advised leadership of the Party, big strides have been made in popular education in the past period.

A splendid education system has been established in this land where the people had been deprived of their opportunities for learning — a system which aims at providing all people with the full right to education and bringing up them into men of intelligence and culture. And a big army of our own cadres has been trained.

It was on the basis of these successes that the nine-year compulsory technical education was introduced in our country this April. This new education system is not a simple compulsory one. This is for bringing up the rising generation as men of a new type of all-round development by combining general education with polytechnic education, and education with production labour.

It reflects the urgent requirements of socialist construction in our country today when the technical and cultural revolutions are being carried out extensively. It also mirrors a far-reaching programme to make the country mighty and civilized as soon as possible and bring earlier the final victory of the revolution by developing the wisdom and strength of our people.

And our compulsory education is a thorough one which substantially gives everyone the right to education and which is completely free.

Our people have made a historical progress in the revolution and construction. And the enforcement of the nine-year compulsory education means another great victory in their struggle to build up a powerful and civilized country.

This is attributable to the deep care of our Party and Premier Kim Il Sung who spare nothing for the education of the rising generation.

Taking into consideration the immediate interests and visualizing the distant future of the revolution, the Workers' Party of Korea and Premier Kim Il Sung saw to it that precedence should be given to education of the rising generation, and established an education system, under which all can receive schooling. At the same time everything has been devoted to the students.

As early as the time of the anti-Japanese armed struggle in the 1930's, Premier Kim Il Sung, in the Ten-point Programme of the Association for the Restoration of the Motherland, set forth the tasks of abolishing slave labour and slave education and enforcing a compulsory, free education in our mother tongue and our letters. Besides, from the early days of the establishment of the guerrilla bases, schools were built and democratic, national education conducted for the future of the rising generations even under the difficult circumstances. Though he had to draw up operational plans in the open he provided the Children's Corps with classrooms. Though the grown-ups were ill-clad, hunger-stricken and shivered with cold, Children Corps were provided with shelters, food, cotton-padded clothes and school things.

Following the country's liberation, a new popular education system was established and democratic education enforced immediately after the founding of the people's state power. And a series of important measures were taken by the State to bring up our rising generation into competent builders of a new society. Even in the grim days of the Patriotic War of Liberation against the U.S. invaders, many orphanages and bereft children's schools were set up throughout the country.

In the period of postwar reconstruction, priority was given to the construction of schools as well as that of factories and other enterprises. Camps were erected for children and students in places of scenic beauty.

Not only that. In accordance with the principles of Marxism-Leninism and at each stage of the development of the revolution in our country, our Party and Premier Kim Il Sung put forward the clear line and concrete ways and means for the upbringing of children and students and trained the teachers into revolutionaries.

This is why our children and students sing lustily the song: "There Is Nothing We Envy":

Our father is Marshal Kim Il Sung
Our home is the bosom of the Party...

This deep care of the Party and Premier Kim Il Sung is the major factor in the epochal progress in so short a space of time.

The enforcement of the nine-year compulsory technical education in our country is indeed the fruition and brilliant embodiment of the great programme of popular education worked out by Premier Kim Il Sung.

Today our popular education is in full blossom. This has been made possible because we, under the leadership of the Party, have carried through the Party's line of independency and laid the solid foundations of an independent economy as we see today, holding high the revolutionary banner of self-reliance and surmounting all obstacles and difficulties.

Firm economic foundations have enabled us to enforce the universal nine-year compulsory technical education even at a time when economic construction is being promoted in parallel with defence building and thereby enabled us to open up a wider avenue for the cultural revolution in our country.

On this joyous occasion, we think with a pang of the children and youth in South Korea, one half of our land where they are forsaken and languishing in hunger and poverty.

We must relieve children and youth in South Korea and their parents from the present miserable plight at an early date.

And we cannot repress our indignation at the unjust move of the Japanese authorities to infringe upon the right of the Korean residents in Japan to democratic, national education. This right of theirs must be ensured unconditionally.

The enforcement of the universal nine-year compulsory technical education has not only brought a great joy to us but put forward an honourable tasks ahead of us.

What is most important here is to firmly establish Juche (national self-identity) in education.

Premier Kim Il Sung said: "Educational work must be conducted in close combination with our revolutionary tasks and in conformity with the realities of our country so as to give practical help to the fulfilment of the Korean revolution."

Only when we know well about our own country shall we be able to creatively apply the principles of Marxism-Leninism to the realities of Korea and to draw on the experience and advanced science and technology of other nations, not swallowing them undigested, but in conformity with the specific conditions of our country.

A new broad avenue has been opened up before our people who are making devoted efforts to build a prosperous and civilized country.

We are working hard to further consolidate our socialist system and bring up the rising generation into a reliable successor to the revolution and thereby to promote the victory of our revolutionary cause and realize our hope for the bright future of our motherland.

School children and their parents rejoicing over the introduction of the universal nine-year compulsory technical education

Photo by Han Si Hwan

Reflections on a Picture

Bak Sun Ui (right) and Ri Ji Sun of today

Here is a photograph of two little girls, one of them writing in the presence of Premier Kim Il Sung. (This photograph appears on Page 1 — Ed.)

Whenever the children greet the new school year, I think of this photograph and feel anew how great the care of the State and Premier for the future generation of the country is.

This year I felt more so than in any of the previous years and, looking at the picture again, felt the urge to see the little girls in it.

This probably was because compulsory nine-year technical schooling was introduced this April with the opening of the new school year.

Without much difficulty I was able to meet them at Hyesan, a northern city of our country.

Since the two little girls in the picture had been deeply impressed on my mind, I was much surprised to find they had much of a maiden about them. Indeed, many years have gone since they posed for the photograph. In this period they have grown so much that it is hard to discern their childish features of the former days.

I was not the only person who was surprised at their growth.

During his local tour a leading functionary in Pyongyang recently visited the house of Bak Sun Ui, one of the two girls in the photograph and now a student of the Hyesan High Medical School.

Looking at the picture of Bak Sun Ui and Ri Ji Sun in their childhood sitting together with Premier Kim Il Sung which was hung on a wall of the room, he, I was told, had also been surprised at Sun Ui's growth. Then he told her, explaining why he had come there, that the Premier wanted to know about the study and life of Sun Ui and Ji Sun.

When she knew the reason for his visit Sun Ui was moved to tears.

Came back to her with all vividness the day she spent with Premier Kim Il Sung in her childhood ten years ago.

May 10 in 1958 was an impressive, unforgettable day for both girls. The Hyesan Stadium was packed with the citizens in their holiday best who turned out to greet the Premier.

Bak Sun Ui and Ri Ji Sun (first formers in the primary school affiliated to the Hyesan Normal School at the time) were waiting impatiently for the Premier to mount the rostrum in front of the attendants to present bouquets to him.

When the Premier appeared on the rostrum they ran up to it and presented bouquets to him.

The Premier received the bouquets with a broad smile on his face, stroked down the hair of both girls, and lifted them up and stood them on the reviewing stand one by one.

The two little girls, beside themselves with joy, felt the Premier's clothes and brought his hands to their cheeks over and over again.

Then it suddenly began to drizzle. The Premier covered the girls with the front of his spring overcoat to shelter them from drizzle. The little girls, deeply touched, only looked at each other's face.

After the meeting the Premier took them down the rostrum by the wrist, inviting them to go with him, and he lifted them and seated them in his car.

The Premier took them to his quarters and asked them their names and ages and produced his note-book and fountain-pen before them. Then he put the fountain-pen in Ji Sun's hand and said: "Now, I want to see if you can write your names."

When they had written their names, the Premier praised them for their writing. And he asked them about the name of their school, their school year and their life in the school and home. After they had answered all these questions, he asked them with a smile on his face if they knew how to dance. They were hesitant. So he said to them again: "You seem to dance well. I'd like to see you dance." Then they danced together the "Freshy Little Plums," waving hands and keeping step with each other and singing as if they had prepared the dance for the occasion.

They spent that whole day pleasantly with the Premier and had their photograph taken in memory of their meeting with the Premier before they returned home.

When they were about to leave his quarters, the Premier came out of doors and waved them a farewell, wishing them to study hard.

The Premier later sent them copies of the photograph as he had promised and has ever shown deep care for their health and study.

In 1963, when Premier Kim Il Sung visited the city again an art performance was given by school girls, with both girls participating, to show him their happy life.

After the performance the Premier praised both girls for their performance, saying: "Now you have grown up to be model Young Pioneers" and instructed them to study hard to become fine daughters of Korea.

To live up to the Premier's instructions they have studied hard and gained the best marks in their school subjects from the first year of the primary school up to date and been placed first in the intellectual contests at their school, too.

They show talent for their study as well as art. Ri Ji Sun participated in the national art festival of school children as a junior violinist and Bak Sun Ui has talent for literature.

Hearing this story from the two girls, I thought that their marked progress had not been made by chance. They had grown up so much that it was hard to distinguish them from the little girls in the photograph. But what made me happy was not merely their physical growth.

I was happy also because, being members of the League of Socialist Working Youth, they were renewing their pledge they had given to the Premier and were always nourishing high ambitions.

Ri Sang Ho

PARADE

Celebrating the Enforcement of the Universal Nine-Year Compulsory Technical Education

A big banner heads the parade

Young Pioneers

Pupils of the Man-gyong-dae School for revolutionary martyrs' children march past the reviewing stand

Photo by Kim Gwang Sung

Photo by Go Gyong Hwa

↑ Women teachers

← Columns of school girls

Grand Celebrations

(Continued from Page 1)

MESSAGE

The meeting adopted a message addressed to Marshal Kim Il Sung.

The message expressed the firm determination of students to study harder, be faithful to the WPK and the revolution to the end and to live up to the instructions of Marshal Kim Il Sung in any storm or stress, by inheriting the revolutionary spirit of the anti-Japanese guerrillas and following the fine example of the Young Pioneers of the 1930's.

The meeting also adopted a letter to the South Korean students.

The day of reunification will surely come when the students in the South, like the students in the North, will study happily, embraced in the warm bosom of Marshal Kim Il Sung, the message wrote.

PARADE

After the meeting, a parade of children and students began.

Preceded by an open car carrying a huge flag with the portrait of Marshal Kim Il Sung on it, the columns of paraders marched past the platform to the accompaniment of a brass band.

A bright smile beamed over the faces of the teachers and parents who were watching the paraders march in fine array and in high spirits.

Shouting at the top of their voices "Hurrah!" and the slogan "Long live the socialist system under which everyone can receive education!" they expressed their sincere gratitude and glory to the Party and the Leader for the great happiness they have brought to the rising generations.

CALLISTHENICS

Gymnastics with poles "Little Soldiers Follow the Party" and callisthenics "Thank You Marshal Kim Il Sung!" were performed on the square.

In the callisthenics performance the children in multi-coloured dress skillfully depicted their exuberant happiness.

After the performance children and students marched through the streets, singing songs.

Similar meetings were also held in provincial capitals, cities and county seats.

EDUCATION IS ACCESSIBLE TO ALL HERE

Teachers and pupils at the Sobung Primary School warmly welcoming the newcomers

New School Year Begins

The new school year opened in stirring excitement in schools thoughout the country on April 1 with the introduction of a historic universal nine-year compulsory technical education.

This school year our primary and middle schools enrolled 190,000 more children than in the previous one.

Beginning on April 1 all the school-age children of the country have come to receive free education in regular schools for nine years.

The entire people of our country greeted with deep emotion and great delight the auspicious new school year which marks a great turning-point in accelerating our technical and cultural revolutions and advancing the day of our country becoming a more civilized nation.

The workers' settlement of the Go'mdo'k Mine, one of the big mining centres in our country, was also festive all day long.

Since the country's liberation three primary schools, two middle schools, a higher mining school and a technical college have been put up in this out-of-the-way place far away from town. As a result, the sons and daughters of the miners here have become able to go to kindergartens and schools at all levels including the higher educational establishment without leaving their native place.

Premier Kim Il Sung visited the mine and gave on-the-spot guidance six years ago. At that time he inquired into the state of children's education there and instructed the management of the mine to build a branch school for 40 children at the Namgaeng village not to go a long way to attend school.

This school year the branch school set up on the Premier's instructions admitted more than 200 children.

Nine sons and daughters of Ri Chun Rim, a worker of the mine, have all grown up healthily and three of them have already graduated from institutions of higher learning.

Born into a hillside-plot tiller's family, he lived in grinding poverty and ignorance under Japanese rule. It was only after the country's liberation that he became the master of the country.

He made up his mind to do all he could for this grateful system saying: "I'm afraid I shall not be able to pay back in my lifetime my debt to the country which has enabled us to attain our cherished desire for learning."

Such a change is not an isolated case with this settlement alone.

And this is not only one miner's feeling.

A network of schools is set up all over the country from town to mountainous areas and people have no worries about the education of their sons and daughters.

In Ryanggang Province, a northernmost mountainous region of the country, six primary schools and more than 300 classrooms have been newly built. And new attractive school buildings have gone up in the other provinces too.

All the school children of our country, who have new text-books supplied and new school buildings constructed and classrooms better equipped for the new school year and thus are able to study to their heart's content, are enjoying great happiness in which they envy nothing. They sing: "Our father is Marshal Kim Il Sung and our home is the bosom of the Party."

Our teachers who cherish honour and pride as the educator of the rising generation are renewing their resolve to implement the education policy of the country with credit and the parents of school children are alive with revolutionary zeal for devoting themselves to economic construction and defence building to bring the advantages of this blessed system into fuller play.

Their school life begins. They will receive free education until they reach the working age

Photo by An Myong Sok

Pupils in Pyongyang throng the square in a gala mood to celebrate the introduction of the universal nine-year compulsory technical education

Photo by Kim Jong Dok

For Younger Generation

On April 1, schools at all levels in the field of common education throughout North Korea opened simultaneously on the basis of the new system of universal nine-year compulsory technical education according to the law adopted at the Supreme People's Assembly session in November last year.

On this occasion our staff reporter Bak Sung Man called on men serving in various branches of educational work to have talks with them.

Here is what they told him:

SCHOOLS WELL REORGANIZED

Kim Dong Hwan, school inspector at the educational department of the Nampo City People's Committee

I can say that a nine-year compulsory technical schooling has long been enforced in our city. Because last year, too, 100 per cent of the graduates of the three-year middle schools went on to the two-year technical schools.

This time, in accordance with the requirements of the Law on the Enforcement of Universal Nine-year Compulsory Technical Education, we have reorganized educational establishments and made adequate arrangements beforehand for the opening of the new school term.

The number of primary school children and middle school pupils in our city this year went up to 107 per cent and 150 per cent respectively. In other words, the number of classes has increased that much. Accordingly, it was necessary to erect more school buildings and secure teaching implements and materials that much. But all these were provided by the State in advance.

On the other hand, a meeting of the City People's Committee was held to discuss the question of equipping schools with adequate facilities and other things. Thus measures were taken to promote this work through a mass movement.

A number of factories and other enterprises in the city such as the Nampo Glass Factory, the Nampo Smeltery and the Nampo Furniture Producers' Co-operative took upon themselves the task of rendering assistance to schools.

Besides, some 80 more teachers have been posted in our city. Before, our city had only one higher educational institution, the teachers' college. But this year a normal college and a higher normal school came into being.

Receiving the first textbooks

HERE IN LIE JOY AND HAPPINESS

Han Bong Ok, worker of casting workshop at Pyongyang Precision-Machine Plant

My eldest daughter went on to the third class of the teachers' college; the second daughter, having graduated from a technical school, is now working at a silk mill; the third daughter went on to the fourth class of the primary school; and the eldest son Gwang Do entered the primary school.

It gives me a special pleasure that my son's entrance into the primary school coincided with the introduction of nine-year compulsory education.

Whenever my son wearing the new school uniform and cap goes to school carrying the satchel on his back, his mother, beside herself with joy, turns him round and round to look at him.

My daughters not only prepare for going to school themselves but also put textbooks and note-books and other school things into the satchel to send their younger brother to school. Meanwhile, Gwang Do, for his part, walks up and down the room, singing: "Azure is the sky, happy is my mind," before he goes to school.

Whenever I see them prepare for going to school, I think of my past when I was compelled to work as a farm hand for ten years of school age, because my family was poor.

"In the past people used to say that "children are the source of worries."

They were so poor that they could not afford to clothe and feed their children and send them to school. But today things are quite different. Our sons and daughters study free of charge at state expense and grow up happily and healthily. Herein lie our great joy and happiness.

ALL SCHOOL-AGE CHILDREN ENROLLED

Ri Yo'ng Suk, teacher of Chango'n Primary School

Ours was a middle school-cum-primary school. But with the opening of the new school year the middle school course was separated from our school.

In this academic year we admitted into our school more than 450 children of full seven years of age or all school-age children in our school area covering four *dong* (sub-district) including Chango'n-dong.

To enable all school-age children in our area to attend school, our school, in co-operation with the functionaries of the people's organs of state power, took a measure to register and confirm school-age children without omission.

The first day of the new school year was a red-letter day for our school. The senior children of our school welcomed the newcomers, waving nosegays and spraying confetti over the latter. And the amateur art group of the school put on the stage a colourful programme in their honour. We are doing our best for the newcomers, the buds of the country, to help them study and play as happily and joyfully at all times as they did on their entrance day.

Of this family's seven sons and daughters six are students

Tokyo Hands Over to Seoul S.Korean Refugees Wishing to Come to North

The Japanese authorities committed another grave illegal act of handing over to the Pak Jung Hi clique eight South Koreans who had taken refuge in Japan to go to North Korea.

The eight deported are Ri Se Yong, aged 33, an official of the Ryosu monopoly office, South Cholla Province, his wife and children and his brothers.

Their motive of desertion was the dissatisfaction with U.S. colonial rule and the anti-popular policy of its puppets. They landed on Tsushima Island by a small boat on March 14.

They were arrested by the Japanese authorities and their case was handled by a Japanese local court. They expressed the firm resolve to go to North Korea and asked the Japanese authorities to communicate their wishes to the Tsushima Headquarters of the General Association of Korean Residents in Japan.

However, the Japanese authorities decided to hand the refugees over to Pak Jung Hi clique in disregard of the principles of humanitarianism and international practice.

The Japanese authorities tried them, keeping their request in the dark, sent them unnoticed to the Omura camp on March 26 and finally deported to South Korea on the afternoon of the next day.

This is one more inhuman crime committed by the Japanese authorities in collusion with the South Korean regime under U.S. manipulation and an outright challenge to human conscience and the principles of humanitarianism.

(KCNA)

MILLIONS FACING STARVATION IN SOUTH KOREA

According to a report of Dong-a Ilbo in Seoul, nearly three million city dwellers of South Korea are facing starvation. The report is based on data of the "Ministry of Public Health and Social Welfare" of the South Korean puppet regime as of the end of last month.

Most of them are unemployees who can hardly find even one day's job.

PEOPLE'S LIVING THREATENED

In South Korea the monthly income of workers and office employees is only one-third of their living cost and even one-quarter of it in the worst case.

As a result of the bankruptcy of industrial enterprises, many workers are thrown out into the streets. There are now 7 million unemployed and semi-unemployed.

Kim Dong Hui Must Be Sent to The D.P.R.K. as He Wishes

World Public Accuse Sato Gov't of Its Attempt to Banish S. Korean Youth Refusing to Go to Vietnam Front

South Korean youth Kim Dong Hui who took refuge in Japan, refusing to be sent to South Vietnam for use as a bullet shield for U.S. imperialism, is striving unbendingly to come to the Democratic People's Republic of Korea, defying the attempts of the Japanese reactionaries to bend him over to South Korea.

In a petition acknowledged by his Japanese legal counsellors and submitted to the Japanese authorities he stated: "Kim Dong Hui, the undersigned, strongly demands, of his own free will, that he be sent to the Democratic People's Republic of Korea."

When he was called on by his elder brother Kim Dong Yun who lives in Japan, he reiterated this point, saying: "I will go to the D.P.R.K., no matter what happens" and "I will go there, rejecting any pressure brought to bear upon me."

The Japanese reactionaries and the South Korean puppets are hatching various plots to bend his ardent will by hook or by crook.

In an effort to treat him as a mere "stowaway" the Japanese authorities insist that he was not on the service list. This betrays, as Kim Dong Hui pointed out, the scheme of the Japanese authorities to trample down his will to come to North Korea, refusing to be sent to South Vietnam.

In July 1965, Kim Dong Hui who was an instructor at the army ordnance school in Pusan, resolutely opposing to be taken to the shambles of South Vietnam by the U.S. imperialists and the Pak Jung Hi clique, crossed over to Japan and asked the Japanese authorities to send him to North Korea.

But the Japanese authorities held him for a whole year in the Fukuoka prison on an unreasonable charge of "violation of the immigration law" and then forcibly moved him to the Omura camp on February 19 to transfer him to the Pak Jung Hi clique.

The Japanese authorities tried hard to induce him to meet South Korean special agents in a move to allure him. But Kim Dong Hui has flatly refused to see them.

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SVNFL

In its telegram to the Foreign Ministry of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea, the Commission for Foreign Relations of the Central Committee of the South Vietnam National Front for Liberation denounced the illegal scheme of the Sato authorities to hand over Korean youth Kim Dong Hui to the Pak Jung Hi clique.

It declared that the South Vietnam National Front for Liberation and the South Vietnamese people extend their full support to the position of the D.P.R.K. Government expounded in the statement of its Foreign Ministry spokesman dated February 25, 1967 and that the Sato authorities should set free Kim Dong Hui at once and send him to the D.P.R.K. without delay as he wishes.

Kim Dong Hui expressing his resolve to go to North Korea

"EMERGENCY MEETING" IN JAPAN

Democratic political parties and mass organizations and public figures of Japan held in Tokyo on March 17 an "emergency meeting for recognition by the Japanese government of Kim Dong Hui's political refuge in Japan and for his repatriation to the Democratic People's Republic of Korea."

The meeting was attended by representatives of 16 political parties and mass organizations.

SIGNATURE CAMPAIGN

Japanese professors and men in the field of culture who had been waging a signature campaign for saving Korean youth Kim Dong Hui held a press conference in Tokyo on March 28 and issued a statement.

The statement was signed by Professor Rokuro Hidaka of the Tokyo University, Professor Shunsuke Tsurumi of the Doshisha University, Professor Tadashi Shirai of the Seinan University, writer Makoto Oda, playwright Junji Kinoshita and other well-known Japanese professors and men in the field of culture, 348 in all.

WFTU

The Secretariat of the World Federation of Trade Unions, in the name of the workers of all lands, sent a telegram to the Japanese government on March 11, demanding that it should unconditionally and immediately send Korean youth Kim Dong Hui to the D.P.R.K. according to his wishes.

IOJ

The Secretariat of the International Organization of Journalists recently cabled to Japanese Prime Minister Sato in protest against the illegal move of the Japanese authorities to transfer South Korean youth Kim Dong Hui to the Pak Jung Hi clique.

IADL

The International Association of Democratic Lawyers issued a statement urging the Japanese authorities to send Kim Dong Hui to the Democratic People's Republic of Korea as he wishes.

The statement demanded that the Japanese authorities guarantee all rights to Kim Dong Hui in accordance with the World Declaration of Human Rights and the universal principle of non-surrender of a political refugee to the place of his former residence.

(KCNA)

PLIGHT OF SOUTH KOREAN STUDENTS

Twenty per cent of the successful applicants for universities and colleges in South Korea are not able to enrol in schools this year as they have failed to pay registration fees, it was revealed by the South Korean news agency Dongyang Tongshin in Seoul.

The same is true of middle and high schools. Registration rate was only 40 per cent at middle and high schools in the city of Gwangju, South Cholla Province.

This, however, is the case with those who have taken entrance examinations. Many children and youths were unable to sit for entrance examinations.

Only 48.6 per cent of the children who graduated from the primary school this spring could go on to schools of higher grade, said Radio Dongyang in South Korea. And hundreds of thousands of school-age children cannot even dream of going to school.

Explaining the reason why so many children and youths gave up their study in the new school year, a South Korean newspaper pointed out that this was because "they were unable to pay a huge amount of school contributions."

As was already reported, Pak Jung Hi and his clique raised university and college registration fees again by 40-63 per cent this year (South Korean news agency Dongyang Tongshin). It was followed by 15-20 per cent increase of the entrance and tuition fees at middle and high schools.

This means each freshman in the new academic year has to pay 37,000 won of entrance and tuition fees at universities and colleges, 9,700 won at high schools and more than 7,300 won at middle schools.

Considering that per-worker monthly income is 5,000-6,000 won at best in South Korea, it is quite a large sum of money for the working people.

On top of this, they have to pay "experiment and practice fees," "students' self-government association fees" and many other miscellaneous impositions and savings deposit.

No wonder South Korean papers lamented, saying: "Schools are no longer places of learning. They have become department stores where knowledge is sold for money."

Outright Challenge To Justice

People in South Korea not wishing to live any longer under the tyranny of the U.S. imperialists and their stooges, the Pak Jung Hi gang, more and more of them are coming over to North Korea.

An Hak Su, former sergeant of the "ROK" army, who was taken to the shambles of South Vietnam to serve the Yankees as their bullet-shield, came to North Korea recently.

On March 14, eight South Korean inhabitants took refuge in Japan in the hope of coming over to North Korea in quest of a new life against the misrule of Pak Jung Hi and his clique. Earlier, as is generally known, a South Korean youth, Kim Dong Hui, fled to Japan to seek refuge, flatly refusing to be sent to South Vietnam and he is now strongly demanding that the Japanese authorities send him to the Democratic People's Republic of Korea.

These South Koreans, who sought refuge in Japan turning their backs upon the cursed South Korean society, expressed their firm will to come to North Korea and requested the Japanese authorities to repatriate them to it.

The Japanese authorities should have taken immediate measures to protect them and send them to the D.P.R.K. as they wished in accordance with the principle of humanitarianism and international practice.

The Japanese authorities, however, went so far as to detain Kim Dong Hui in conspiracy with the Seoul puppets and are now going to hand him over to them.

And on March 27, they committed the unpardonable criminal act of forcibly transferring the said eight persons to South Korea where only death awaits them.

This constitutes a gross violation of the elementary principles of international law and international usage and an outright challenge to justice and humanitarianism.

This action of the Japanese militarists emanates from their basic position to attain their aggressive aim by actively helping in the execution of the U.S. policy of aggression in South Korea and South Vietnam. Above all, it stems from their crafty calculation to achieve their design for the reinvasion of South Korea more easily by rendering positive assistance to the Pak Jung Hi clique in the dispatch of troops to South Vietnam and currying favour with them.

These schemes of the Japanese authorities will never bring them any good results.

They must not stand in the way of those South Koreans who want to come over to North Korea to lead a new life.

Should the Japanese authorities persist in their criminal action, defying this just demand and the unbiased world public opinion, they will not be able to escape the stern denunciation to which the Korean and Japanese peoples and the world's public will subject them as the enemy of justice and humanitarianism and will have to bear the responsibility for all the ensuing consequences.

Bak Jong In

"I Am Boundlessly Happy"

Former S. Korean Soldier from S. Vietnam Welcomed at Rally

A mass meeting was held at the open-air theatre of the Moran-bong Youth Park in Pyongyang on March 27 in welcome of An Hak Su, former sergeant of the South Korean puppet army, who came to our Republic from South Vietnam, refusing to serve the U.S. imperialists as their bullet-shield.

The meeting place was packed to capacity with over 20,000 working people in the city.

Among the attendants were Go Hyok, Vice-Premier of the Cabinet, and other leading functionaries of the governmental organs and public organisations, and Major General O Juk Sun and other officers and men of the People's Army and labour innovators.

Also present were Vu Ngoc Ho, Chief of the Permanent Mission of the South Vietnam National Front for Liberation and Hoang Muoi, Counsellor of the Embassy of the Democratic Republic of Vietnam in Pyongyang.

When An Hak Su appeared on the platform, the attendants welcomed him with enthusiastic applause.

BAEK NAM UN, Vice-President of the Presidium of the Supreme People's Assembly and Vice-Chairman of the Committee for the Peaceful Reunification of the Fatherland, spoke at the meeting.

He warmly welcomed An Hak Su in the name of Pyongyang citizens, saying that his coming to our Republic was a patriotic deed doing honour to the country and the dignity of the nation, a manifestation of righteous resistance against the U.S. imperialists' war of aggression in Vetnam and part of the just struggle against the troop dispatch to South Vietnam by the U.S. imperialists and the Pak Jung Hi clique.

He denounced the Pak Jung Hi clique for sending a large number of South Korean youths to South Vietnam to be used as cheap cannon fodder for the U.S. imperialists, actively following the latter's desperate escalation strategy.

No one who values national honour and dignity and cherishes human conscience and pride should commit the disgraceful act of levelling a gun at the Vietnamese people who have risen up against the U.S. imperialists, the common enemy, and die a dog's death in a faraway land, he emphasized.

Saying that a vast avenue to a bright, new life lies before An Hak Su who is now in the warm bosom of the motherland, Baek Nam Un declared that the men and officers of the South Korean puppet army taken to South Vietnam should come over to the side of the South Vietnam Liberation Army, refusing to live the life of U.S. mercenaries, return to our Republic to lead a new life and fight for the reunification of the country.

After the speech monetary and other prizes were awarded to An Hak Su amid the warm applause of the attendants.

Representatives of workers, peasants and women spoke next.

Then AN HAK SU took the floor amid a storm of applause.

He extended utmost honour and profound thanks to Marshal Kim Il Sung, the respected and beloved leader of the 40 million Korean people and peerless national hero, and the Central Committee of the Korean Workers' Party and the Government of the Republic headed by him, who have brought the happiness and joy of today to a youngster who had only recently been a mercenary of Yankee aggressors in South Vietnam.

He recalled with a bitter feeling his disgraceful, inhumane life he had led since he was drafted into the South Korean army in July 1963.

Fooled by the propaganda of the Pak Jung Hi clique, he said, I nursed delusions when I was taken to South Vietnam. But, having witnessed the stark reality in South Vietnam after I was taken there in September, 1964, I gradually came to realise that the war there is a criminal aggressive war of the U.S. imperialists.

He continued:

I came to clearly realise that it is not a war for "defending freedom" but a homicidal war, not a war against "communist aggression" but an aggressive war. I became convinced that the struggle of the South Vietnamese people against Yankees is a right-class war and sympathized with the South Vietnamese people.

Through my experience I keenly realised that we were taken to South Vietnam not for "joint defence" or "defence of freedom" as advertised by the Americans and Pak Jung Hi, but to be used as bullet shields for the Yankees in their criminal war of aggression.

Pointing out that in battles South Korean troops are made to take the brunt of attack, he said: Those who refused to obey Yankees' orders were shot. To hide the fact from the eyes of the South Korean people, the U.S. imperialists have not sent back the ashes of over 10,000 South Korean soldiers who perished on the battlefield.

The South Korean soldiers in South Vietnam are in constant fear and are cursing Yankees who always drive them out to most dangerous battles.

Saying that he still remembered what the commander of a South Vietnam Liberation Army unit in a district told him about the Democratic People's Republic of Korea, especially about the wise leadership of Premier Kim Il Sung, he quoted the commander's words:

"Premier Kim Il Sung of Korea is a really great man. He is a hero who took up arms against the Japanese imperialist aggressors and fought victorious battles against them for a long time. Today, the Korean comrades have turned their country into a socialist one capable of standing on its own feet under his wise leadership.

"The Korean people are happy because they have the outstanding leader. I am convinced that under his leadership the Korean people will surely drive the Americans out of the southern part of their country and reunify it."

His words fired me with a desire to come to the homeland as early as possible.

Embraced in the bosom of Marshal Kim Il Sung, the leader of the 40 million Korean people, in accordance with my wishes, I am now boundlessly happy.

The road to bright future will be open to the South Korean servicemen dispatched to South Vietnam when they turn their guns on the U.S. imperialists and go over to the side of the Liberation Army. Men and officers of the puppet army in South Korea must fight so that none of them will be taken to South Vietnam in the future. They must fight against the U.S. imperialists and the Pak Jung Hi clique.

He evinced his resolve to devote his youth to the cause of the country's reunification.

In conclusion he extended his sincere thanks to his friends in the South Vietnam National Front for Liberation and the Democratic Republic of Vietnam who helped him take the road to a worthy life.

Pyongyang Students Welcome An Hak Su

Over 20,000 students in Pyongyang also held a meeting on March 29 in welcome of An Hak Su, former South Korean army sergeant.

Students in Pyongyang giving an enthusiastic welcome to An Hak Su, former sergeant of the South Korean puppet army

Preliminary Skirmishes In "Election" Campaign in South Korea

Pak Jung Hi's regime in Seoul announced on March 24 that the "presidential election" would be held on May 3. And it decided to conduct the "national assembly election" on June 8. The ruling and opposition parties are reported to have concluded the "nomination of their candidates for the national assembly."

Now the whirlwind of election campaign has started in real earnest, sweeping the political circles of South Korea.

A South Korean politician on March 23 denounced the Pak Jung Hi clique, saying: "If the pro-Japanese Pak regime is maintained, we shall be overridden by the Japanese and the pro-Japanese elements," according to a report from Seoul.

He told newsmen on Cheju Island that "Japan's economic control over South Korea has been consolidated since the normalisation of the ROK-Japan diplomatic relations."

"Japan-South Korea trade balance is 3.4:1, the proportion of imports from Japan stands at 75 per cent and rich fishing grounds have become the exclusive fields of operation for Japanese boats," he pointed out.

He said that "Pak Jung Hi and the comprador capitalists and the corrupt officials to power conducting intelligence politics should be branded as the enemies of the nation and their group should not be allowed to seize power again."

The Pak Jung Hi clique are resorting to more organized and "intellectual" fraud for the connection of their return in face of the isolation from and repudiation by the people.

Dispatches from Seoul disclosed that the spending of Pak Jung Hi's "Democratic Republican Party" on the coming "presidential election" was more then ten times its officially set ceiling. According to their disclosure, Pak Jung Hi and his clique are planning to give 2,000 won to each household in South Korea through their administrative bodies to buy

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Withdraw Bill on "Alien School System"!

World Public Denounce Sato Gov't for Its Suppression of Nat'l Education of Koreans in Japan

World public are resolutely opposing the "alien school system" the Sato Government is now going to devise with a view to suppressing and abolishing the democratic, national education of the Korean nationals in Japan.

DRV

The Foreign Ministry of the Democratic Republic of Vietnam issued a statement on March 22 vehemently condemning the Japanese authorities for their scheme to sabotage the democratic national education of Korean nationals in Japan, according to a report of the Vietnam News Agency.

The Japanese government must immediately give up this dark design and correctly implement international law and norms to guarantee democratic, national education to Korean nationals in Japan, the statement emphasized.

JAPAN

One hundred and fourteen professors and lecturers of the Kobe Commercial College, the Kobe Foreign Languages College and three other universities in Hyogo Prefecture in their joint names issued a statement opposing the "alien school system" and demanding the guarantee of national education to the Koreans in Japan.

IOJ

The Secretariat of the International Organization of Journalists issued a statement denouncing the unreasonable scheme of the Japanese authorities to suppress the democratic, national education of Korean nationals in Japan.

TTUI

The Korean Teachers' Union in Japan received recently a letter from the Teachers' Trade Union International expressing solidarity with the Korean nationals in Japan in their just struggle to defend their right of national education.

WFSW

Malik, European Honorary Secretary of the World Federation of Scientific Workers, sent telegrams of protest to the Japanese Parliament and Sato government against the scheme to institute the "alien school system."

New school year begins on April 1 at the Korean schools in Japan. But the Japanese authorities are attempting to deprive the Korean nationals of the right to national education

(Continued from Page 7)

over voters. To this end, the "Democratic-Republican Party" has already distributed one to two million won to each of its district organizations and is going to deliver up to 10-20 million won. The dispatches say that "expenses for election propaganda, the activities of various organizations, the operations designed to disrupt opposition parties and for the bribery of voters through administrative organs must exceed 10,000 million won all told."

According to the South Korean daily Pusan Ilbo, Pak Jung Hi "is bent on forming minor political parties by an extremely vile means, spending in secret a huge sum of money from the national coffers, to scatter votes for oppositions."

Pak Jung Hi and his clique also contemplate to offer 10,000 won to each county headman and chief of the police station and 3,000 won to each sub-county headman and chief of the police branch in addition to their monthly pay to make them show their zeal in the electioneering.

They are forcing the voters to do practice for "voting by proxy" and "bogus voting" besides the "three-man group voting" and "nine-man group voting" which used to be employed in the previous elections.

These are not all the means and methods Pak Jung Hi clique resort to for their return.

Pak Jung Hi and his clique have suddenly begun to make extensive promises for "benefits" to the voters. Their promises are varied. They say they will adopt a "plan for the building of industries by regional groups," "build tele-communications facilities in sub-counties lacking them by the end of the year" and "grant grain loans to the foodless peasant families."

Four years ago, when Pak Jung Hi was making preparations for installing himself as a "civilian president" casting off army uniform, he made many such promises. But today, four years later, none of his promises has been fulfilled.

The South Korean people have already heard enough of such promises made during five "presidential elections" and six "national assembly elections." And they know better than anyone else that all their promises have proved and will prove empty.

While resorting to such fraud and trickery to fool the people, the Pak Jung Hi clique have expanded the suppressing organs in a big way, designated the first half of this year as the "period of emergency duty" and ordered the police throughout South Korea to make thorough-going preparations for it.

Pak Jung Hi's secret police imprisoned an opposition "presidential candidate" and recently arrested and indicted two opposition "candidates for the national assembly" and the chief of an opposition district organization for "violating" the "anti-communist law" and the "election law."

It is not fortuitous that Pak Jung Hi's regime is branded as a "dictatorial regime which is indulged in corruption, self-righteousness and despotism," as a "pro-Japanese regime which is in collusion with Japanese imperialism in betrayal of the nation and as the "worst regime" which seeks to meet its ambition for power by a "contract war." **Pak Chun Hui**

The 6th Int'l Students Games

Illegal Step Must Be Curbed

The sixth International Students Games are scheduled to be held in Japan in the coming August. According to reports, Japanese reactionaries in the Organizing Committee of the Games intend arbitrarily to call the team of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea to the Games "North Korea" team.

It is a matter pertaining to the elementary norms of international practice for a sports team to have the legal name of its country in taking part in an international game and for the host country to ensure freedom for its participation. The Rules of the International Students Sports Federation include an express provision that all members states of the Federation should be free from any political discrimination in participating in the Games.

Nevertheless, the Japanese reactionaries are exercising illegal political discrimination against the team of the D.P.R.K. and are attempting to use the forthcoming Games for their dishonest political ends.

This is an ignoble action of the Japanese reactionary circles to impair the dignity and authority of the Korean nation, draw politics into sports and toy with them politically.

Obviously, this is carried out as part of the hostile policy Sato and his associates have all along pursued against the Democratic People's Republic of Korea, joining hands with the Pak Jung Hi puppet clique, at the instigation of the U.S. imperialists.

It should be recalled that at the time of the World Women's Volleyball Championships in January they virtually scuttled the Championships by resorting to base means in pursuit of such sinister political purposes.

By this plot of the Sato group, Japan is being led to forfeiture of even the moral authority necessary for the organization of an international match and is incurring the wrath of all the fair-minded people.

The sports lovers and public circles of the world are severely denouncing the Sato group's flagrant infringement upon the noble spirit and tradition of the International Students Games aimed at the development of sports and the promotion of international friendship and co-operation among youth and students.

The Korean people will never tolerate the criminal intrigue of the Japanese authorities.

They must put an immediate stop to its illegal scheme to use sports for their despicable political ends.

Jo Sa'n Won

SEOUL—ISRAEL SOLID TIES

Seoul regime's "President" Pak Jung Hi received on March 27 a letter of credence from the first Israeli ambassador to South Korea, according to South Korean news agency Dongyang Tongshin.

Thus, the ties between the South Korean and Israeli puppets have further been strengthened.

As was already reported, the South Korean regime established diplomatic relations with Israel on April 9, 1962. Then it was followed by the establishment of the "South Korea-Israel Friendship Society" in Seoul on April 10, 1966. Meanwhile, there were frequent visits between them: delegations consisting of top-ranking officials of the South Korean puppet government and national assembly made visits to Israel and the Israeli army commander-in-chief came to Seoul in March last year.

The Israeli Embassy has long been set up in Seoul. But so far Israel has been represented in Seoul not by her formal ambassador but by her charge d'affaires ad interim.

Pak Jung Hi and his clique said that so far they had deferred to receive the formal ambassador, from the consideration of their relations with the Arab nations.

And they explained that this was not what they really meant to do but they were compelled to use such a strategem taking into consideration the discussion of the Korean question at the U.N. And Israeli reactionaries also appreciated this.

But the Seoul regime now saw it fit to discard all these "considerations" and "deferment" and receive the formal Israeli ambassador.

Pak Jung Hi's step, needless to say, was taken on the instructions and with the sanction of his master in Washington. Exhibited here is Washington's intention to follow more high-handedly and more openly the policy of hostility towards the Arab nations which value independency and national dignity and are determined never to desert the cause of the whole Arabs—the liberation of Palestine.

In view of this situation, the Seoul puppets considered that no longer did they need to make such an awkward and hypocritical gesture towards the Arab nations.

Of course, the Arab nations have long seen the true colours of U.S. stooges in Seoul.

On the eve of the U.N. General Assembly session last year the Pak Jung Hi clique fawned much upon the Arab nations but failed to bring about the desired effect. They, therefore, reviewed their work later and criticized the then "Foreign Minister."

As is generally known, when the British and French imperialists, together with the Israeli expansionists, invaded the United Arab Republic the South Korean puppets praised this predatory action to the skies and volunteered to send their troops. And in 1968 they went so far as to help the West German militarists in supplying Israel with weapons.

Not only that. The Pak Jung Hi clique lost no opportunity of carrying on malicious smear and slander campaigns against the home and foreign policy of Arab nations and against their unity and solidarity.

What United States intends and says are just what its stooges in Seoul really intend and say. From time to time Pak Jung Hi tries to cover up this by clumsy means. No one, however, will be deceived by it.

Kim Gun Hyong

S. KOREA'S "CURRENCY CEILING" IS BROKEN

The volume of South Korean currency reached 74,500,000,000 won as of the end of February, according to data quoted by the South Korean News Agency Dongyang Tongshin in Seoul on March 16.

This is an increase of 5,200,000,000 won as against the end of last year.

The 74,000,000,000 won "currency ceiling for the first quarter year" fixed by the Seoul "government" at the beginning of the year has thus been broken in two months.

Recently the puppet authorities have issued at random inconvertible notes amounting to 9,500,000,000 won in addition to restriction of disbursement of general funds and coercive withdrawal of loans, in order to obtain funds necessary for meeting the growing demand for military spending and for introducing foreign capital.

As a result, reports say, prices are on a sudden rise in South Ko-

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